

Minutes of the Meeting of Montgomery Town Council held on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at 7.15 pm in Montgomery Town Hall, Broad Street, Montgomery.

**Present:** Cllr L Weaver (Town Mayor) Cllr H Andrew (Deputy Town Mayor)  
Councillors: M Mills, D Jones, J Kibble, C Weston, W Beavan D Jaunzens.

#### **MINUTE 133 – APOLOGIES**

Cllr C Thomas - Illness

#### **MINUTE 134 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No Declarations

#### **MINUTE 135 – MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Cllr Weaver thanked everyone for their help at the Senior Citizens party.
- Tickets for Mayors Ball will be on sale from 1<sup>st</sup> February

#### **MINUTE 136 – MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Resolved to approve the minutes of the last meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2017 which were signed by the Chairman.

#### **MINUTE 137 – MATTERS ARISING**

- Skips have still not been re-positioned at recycling site.

#### **MINUTE 138 – PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

- P2017/1464 – No objection
- P2018/0002 – No objections

#### **MINUTE 139 – REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCIILLOR**

1. Cllr Hayes was expecting the work at the recycling site to be completed this week. He will keep a check on this.
2. Mid Wales Housing cannot afford the upkeep on the flats in Old Gaol Road, tenants will be re-housed and flats sold.
3. Vegetation and garden have been cleared at The Brades, Housing Officers at Powys CC were keeping in contact with the owners.
4. Cllr Hayes has a meeting with a representative from Nat West Bank in an effort to re-instate mobile banking in the area with a base in Newtown.
5. Re-surfacing is due to take place from Maldwyn Way through Princes Street, the Cottage, and Verlon along with a stretch from Forden to Stalloe before the end of March 2018.
6. Street lighting issue from November meeting is still to be addressed.

#### **MINUTE 140 – HIGHWAYS**

- Clearing of leaves and drains - PCC have been contacted
- Pot holes on Forden Road by Stalloe
- Entrance to Castle car park needs attention, Cllr Mills will forward contact details to ascertain who is responsible for this
- Concerns were raised regarding the diversion and access to car park essential work was undertaken in Bishops Castle Street.

#### **MINUTE 141 – TOWN HALL**

- Cllr Mills explained it is a two- stage process for this loan and Welsh Government need more information before making a decision, this will need immediate attention. Councillors were once again asked to show their support for this loan.  
Councillors D Jones & D Jaunzens abstained.
- If the proposed improvements go ahead, MCBPT have again shown an interest in running the Town Hall.
- Cllr Mills and Cllr Thomas are in the process of completing applications for grants for this project, it would be helpful if community groups gave their support to the project.
- This project needs to be agreed by the end of February and Tenders need to be issued.
- Councillors have agreed to meet market traders to discuss their ideas if the proposed works go ahead.
- Cllr Kibble advised there were paint pots that needed to be moved and maybe thrown away.
- Letter received from the Institute offering use of the toilets during the renovations at the Town Hall and use of the foyer for coffee mornings.
- Cllr Weston advised that anti- bacterial products were not available in the Town Hall, Town Clerk advised these items were purchased regularly but quickly disappeared. Town Clerk had spoken with Powys CC regarding rating certificate for food hygiene, they advised that as we do not have regular groups using the facilities (ie lunch Club) we did not require a certificate at this time. Issues were also raised re coffee mornings and cakes etc. donated by members of the various groups, Town Clerk will raise this issue with Powys CC.
- Waste collection will cease with present supplier on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2018, therefore a new supplier has been contracted for collections as from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2018.
- Town Clerk advised she had been told there were issues with hirers covering exit and emergency lighting this will be discussed at next TH meeting..

#### **MINUTE 142 – TOURISM**

- Cllr Kibble advised Winter Festival organized by MEG had been very successful and they plan to run this again in 2018.
- Proceeds of the Harp concert on 15<sup>th</sup> February will go towards Town Hall refurbishment.
- Open gardens will take place in June.
- Guided history walks will begin again with Civic Society
- Cllr Kibble is producing a list of annual main events in Montgomery
- Mellington Hall is willing to publicize leaflets
- Committee would like to recommend having the plaque and poppies in the foyer of the Town Hall following refurbishment.
- Shakespeare play 16<sup>th</sup> August 2018, with a possibility of the Pirates of Penzance in July.

#### **MINUTE 143 – DESTINATION MONTGOMERY**

- Welsh Government is very supportive of the application for Brown Signs, Powys CC have been approached for costings with a view for a sign by the Nags Head with symbols for Castle, Museum, Walking and Eating. Destination Montgomery officer is liaising with WAG and Powys CC.
- Re-vamped leaflets for walking and cycling are in the process of design and will be launched in April.
- There is a Beer and Food Festival later in the year.
- Talks are in progress with Castles in Wonderland who plan trips for groups of Japanese tourists in particular.
- Facebook training will go ahead on 31<sup>st</sup> January
- Bruce Lawson has secured a half page weekly spread in the County Times.

#### **MINUTE 144 – SITING OF PLAQUE FROM HUNGARY**

Following delivery of the plaque the siting of same was again discussed at some length, Councillors are agreed that the outer walls of the Town Hall are not suitable for various reasons. Costs for erecting this plaque will prove inhibitive during 2018 particularly as all efforts will be given to refurbishment of the lower floor.

Tourism committee had suggested placing the plaque in the new inside foyer of the Town Hall, this idea was not received with enthusiasm.

This will be discussed again in February.

#### **MINUTE 145 – COUNTY WAR MEMORIAL**

Cllr Mills advised that £21k would be needed for repairs, a large proportion of this would be scaffolding cost. It may be possible to obtain grants for a large part of the cost.

Insurance costs for the memorial need to be sought.

Write to all Montgomeryshire town/community councils requesting help with funding.

#### **MINUTE 146 – WELSH LANGUAGE POLICY**

Resolved to accept the policy.

#### **MINUTE 147 – WW1 BEACON**

Beacons will be lit on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at 19.00 hours, Cllr Weaver will check if the time for the annual service at the County Memorial can be changed to coincide with the lighting of the beacon.

#### **MINUTE 148 – TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCIL REORGANISATION**

Cllr Kibble had attended a meeting organised by One Voice Wales and a response from them is expected shortly. Council can then make their own response to the consultation.

#### **MINUTE 149 – BANKING IN MONTGOMERY**

A representative had been attending in Montgomery every two weeks either in the library or Town Hall.

## MINUTE 150 – LAND ADJACENT TO DRAGON HOTEL

Letter received from Powis Estates with an offer to purchase the above land. Following consideration by councilors who were concerned by future liabilities it was RESOLVED not to purchase this land.

## MINUTE 151 – FINANCE

	<b>PAYMENTS DECEMBER 2017</b>	
TFR	Destination Montgomery-from Powys	3136.32
BACS	HMRC - Tax	34.80
	E-On – electricity Town Hall	373.26
	British Telecom - paid twice	35.64
	Cae Post – Waste	81.60
	Eric Neville – Cleaning Products	117.51
	Greenfingers – Grass Cutting	113.90
	R Bunner & Son -	17.00
	Viking – Stationery paid twice	98.40
	Salaries x 2	1269.32
	Service Charge	18.00
	<b>PAYMENTS January 2018</b>	
BACS	G Smith – Expenses	100.40
	Walkers R Welcome	40.00
	Churches Fire – Fire Extinguishers	177.42
	E-On Electricity- Final	90.89
	Cae Post – Euro Bin	61.20
	Howells Fuel Oils	617.08
	SLCC – Training Clerk	36.00
	Dragon Hotel -Caretaking	144.00
	Salaries x 2	1269.32
D/D	Nest Pension – December	11.88
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	Powys CC – Council Tax	530.00
Chq 10	Dr Ashton – Defibrillator	1526.00
11	Sam Morgan – Return Deposit	149.50
12	A Culley – Recycling Site	400.00
	<b>Destination Montgomery</b>	0.00
	Officers salary – December	915.28
	Officers expenses – December	165.35
	HMRC – December	255.86
	Officers Salary – January 18	915.28
	Officers Expenses – January 18	72.70

Resolved to accept the above payments

## MINUTE 152 – CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was noted

#### **MINUTE 153 – REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL BODIES**

- Cllr Kibble had attended a meeting in Welshpool of North Montgomery Forum

#### **MINUTE 154 – ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

Charging Points for electric vehicles  
Law Commission document